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25X1

NNNNVV EID91IKLF324
 OO RUEAIIB
 ZNY SSSSS ZOC STATE ZZH
 MJA524JIA883
 OO RUEHC
 DE RUMJIR #3702 0780755
 ZNY SSSSS ZZH
 O 180740Z MAR 72
 FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
 TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6023
 INFO RUMTBK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE 6197
 RUMJNO/AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH IMMEDIATE 2387
 RUMJFS/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE 9605

SECRET SAIGON 3702

EXDIS

JOINT EMBASSY/MACV/OSA

DELIVER OPENING OF BUSINESS MARCH 18

SUBJ: DECLASSIFICATION OF MOOSE/LOWENSTEIN REPORT

REF: STATE 45007

1. MAJORITY OF POINTS RAISED REFTEL ARE OF GREATER CONCERN TO OTHER SEA MISSIONS THAN SAIGON. FOLLOWING COMMENTS ADDRESS APPLICABLE PORTIONS OF SUBPARAGRAPHS 2 H, I, K, M, N, AND O ONLY.
2. US SORTIE RATES OVER CAMBODIA AND NORTH VIET-NAM (2-H) WE DO NOT OBJECT TO THE RELEASE OF HISTORICAL SORTIE DATA (E.G. THROUGH DECEMBER 1971 AS SUPPLIED UNDER TOP SECRET CLASSIFICATION BY MACV TO JCS IN RESPONSE TO SYMINGTON REQUEST). RELEASE OF CURRENT DATA IS UNACCEPTABLE. WE ASSUME THAT IT WOULD BE MADE CLEAR THAT NO B-52 STRIKES ARE INCLUDED IN NVN FIGURES, AND THAT OPERATIONS WERE PROTECTIVE OVER NVN WERE PROTECTIVE REACTION ONLY.
3. VNAF SORTIE RATES OVER VIET-NAM, LAOS AND CAMBODIA. (1-D) WE BELIEVE IN PRINCIPLE THAT THIS

OSD review completed

State Dept. review
completed

SECRET

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ACTION NO.						- 2 -	

AND COMPARABLE DATA FOR OTHER SEA AIR FORCES SHOULD BE RELEASED BY GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED, NOT IN WASHINGTON. GVN HAS NOT RELEASED VNAF DATA, BUT INFORMAL INQUIRY DIRECTED TO RVNAF/JGS CHIEF OF STAFF INDICATES THAT GVN WOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH THE RELEASE OF VNAF SORTIE RATES IN SOUTH VIET-NAM AND CAMBODIA ONLY.

4. PERCENTAGE OF US SORTIES ORIGINATING FROM THAILAND, SVN AND CARRIERS. (2-K) WE HAVE NO OBJECTION.

5. RLG REQUEST FOR RVNAF SUPPORT LAST SUMMER. (2-M) IN VIEW OF THE DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN THE REPLY FROM THE GVN AS RECEIVED BY THE LAO AND THE INFORMATION GIVEN US BY THE VIETNAMESE, WE CONSIDER ANY APPROACH TO THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WOULD RESULT IN EMBARRASSMENT TO ALL PARTIES: SUBJECT SHOULD REMAIN CLASSIFIED AS QUESTION WHICH AROSE BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS AND IN WHICH THE USG WAS NOT INVOLVED.

6. NUMBER OF CAMBODIANS TRAINED IN SOUTH VIET-NAM. (2-N) WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF TOTALS TRAINED BY US FORCES IN SVN, SUBJECT TO CONCURRENCE OF CAMBODIAN AUTHORITIES. RVNAF/JGS CHIEF OF STAFF HAS INFORMALLY APPROVED RELEASE OF FIGURES ON CAMBODIANS TRAINED BY VIETNAMESE MILITARY. SINCE CAMBODIAN FANK TRAINING PROGRAMS ARE CINCPAC/MEDT ACTIVITY, WE SUGGEST COORDINATION ALSO WITH CINCPAC.

25X1

8. VALIDATION OF SORTIES IN FREEDOM DEAL, CAMBODIA. (2-O) WE CONFIRM THAT PRACTICE AS WELL AS POLICY IS THAT ALL RPT ALL STRIKES IN FREEDOM DEAL REQUIRE VALIDATION BY FANK AND APPROVAL BY 7AF TACTICAL AIR COMMAND CENTER (TACC). CERTAIN AREAS ALONG LINES OF COMMUNICATION WITHIN FREEDOM DEAL AREA ARE PRE-VALIDATED BY FANK UNDER STANDARD FRECEDURE WHEREBY ROUTES ARE REVIEWED AND RE-VALIDATED EVERY TEN DAYS. ALL OTHER STRIKES WITIN FREEDOM DEAL REQUIRE SPECIFIC VALIDATION, WHICH IS NORMALLY GRANTED BY RESPONSIBLE FANK LIAISON OFFICER LOCATED AT 7AF TACC IN SAIGON; ON OCCASION HE REFERS SENSITIVE MISSIONS TO HIGHER

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HEADQUARTERS IN PHNOM PENH FOR DECISION. WE ASSUME
 CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS MAY HAVE TALKED WITH OFFICERS
 AT FANK HEADQUARTERS WHO WERE UNFAMILIAR WITH
 MECHANICS OF VALIDATION AND ASSUMED THAT CASES REFERRED
 TO PHNOM PENH WERE ONLY STRIKES SUBMITTED FOR FANK
 CLEARANCE. BUNKER

BT

#3702

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SECRET